

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TOKYO 10288 080312Z

70

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AECE-00 ACDA-19 OMB-01 INRE-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 DRC-01 /107 W

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O 080255Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3780

UNCLAS TOKYO 10288

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, MARR, JA

SUBJECT: MEDIA QUERY

REF: TOKYO 10253

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION COMSEVENTHFLT INFO CINCPACFLT COMUSJAPAN
AMEMB TOKYO CTF SEVEN SEVEN CTG SEVEN SEVEN PT FOUR CHINFO
WASHINGTON DC FROM COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA AUG 070436Z
REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE

UNCLAS//NO5720//

MEDIA QUERY

1. FOLLOWING QUERIES RECEIVED BY COMNAVFORJAPAN THIS DATE FROM
SHUKAN POST.

A. WHAT IS THE MIDWAY'S PRIMARY MISSION?

B. IT IS SAID BY SOME PEOPLE THAT THE MIDWAY IS STRATEGICALLY
IMPORTANT TO THE US NAVY SINCE IT IS NUCLEAR ARMED AND MAINTAINED
TO BE READY FOR A REAL WAR IN WHICH IT WOULD HAVE TO COPE WITH
THE RUSSION FLEET, INCLUDING NUCLEAR SUBS. PLEASE COMMENT ON
THE ABOVE ASSUMPTION.

C. IT IS SAID THAT THE MIDWAY HAS, SINCE THE END OF LAST YEAR,
PARTICIPATED IN OPERATIONS IN VIETNAM AND SOUTH KOREA. PLEASE
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PROVIDE THE MOVEMENTS OF THE MIDWAY FOR THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS

AND INCLUDE THE PURPOSE OF THOSE MOVEMENTS.

D. ACCORDING TO STATEMENTS BY MIDWAY CREWMEMBERS, THERE ARE NUCLEAR BOMBS ON THE MIDWAY. THE BOMBS ARE REPORTEDLY ON THE FIFTH DECK AND UNDER A SPECIAL GUARD. PLEASE CONFIRM IF THIS IS TRUE.

E. IF THE ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE NOT TRUE, WHAT ARE THE SILVER-PAINTED BOMBS THAT ARE APPROXIMATELY 12 FEET LONG AND 2 FEET IN DIAMETER THAT ARE KEPT ON THE FIFTH DECK?

F. DOCTOR ROBERT A. KILMARX, CHIEF RESEARCHER OF THE STRATEGIC RESEARCH CENTER OF GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY ONCE SAID, "THE FAR EAST AREA, INCLUDING JAPAN, NOW HOLDS ONLY A VERY LOW PRIORITY IN THE US DEFENSE PROGRAM, SO THERE IS NO LONGER A US NUCLEAR UMBRELLA OVER JAPAN." HOW WOULD THE REAL ROLE AND EXISTENCE OF THE MIDWAY RELATE TO THIS STATEMENT.

2. REQUEST ADVISE RESPONSES DESIRED.

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